

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. – 13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information as claimed in claim ~~13~~19 further comprising the steps of:

supplying a message type code from said user interface to said computer~~means~~, said message type code representative of a predetermined message sequence to be broadcast; and

supplying a plurality of message variables relevant to the message sequence to be broadcast.

15. – 16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information as claimed in claim ~~12~~19 wherein said step of broadcasting said audio and ~~visual text~~ messages over said at least one audio reproduction device and said at least one visual display device further includes selecting a predetermined broadcast zone to which said audio and ~~visual text~~ messages are broadcast.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information comprising the steps of:

providing a computer ~~means~~ for recording audio message components input from a sound transducer and corresponding ~~visual text~~ message components input from a user interface, and storing said message components in said information database;

assembling audio and corresponding text messages for broadcast by ordering said audio message components and said ~~visual text~~ message components in said information database in a predetermined sequence;

providing at least one audio reproduction device for broadcasting audio messages;

providing at least one visual display device for broadcasting ~~visual text~~ messages;

calculating a duration for each audio message component;
embedding the time duration of each audio message component into the corresponding ~~visual~~text message component;

for each of said at least one visual display device, separating said text messages into a plurality of lines;

synchronizing the broadcast of said ~~visual~~text messages with said audio messages by calculating a scroll rate for each line for said ~~visual~~text messages on said at least one visual display device using the embedded time duration of each corresponding audio message component; and

broadcasting said audio and ~~visual~~text messages over said at least one audio reproduction device and said at least one visual display device.

20. (currently amended) A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information as claimed in claim 19 wherein the step of assembling messages for broadcast further comprises the steps of:

assigning a unique identification tag to each audio message component and each ~~visual~~text message component; and

compiling a list of the audio message components and ~~visual~~text message components by unique identification tag.

21. (New) A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information as claimed in claim 19, where, for each audio and corresponding text message broadcast, the text is displayed such that the text line in the vertical center of the visual display device corresponds to the audio being broadcast.

22. (New) A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information comprising the steps of:

a. storing a plurality of pre-recorded audio take files, each audio take file being identified by a unique tag, each audio take file including an embedded time queue identifying the length of time for broadcast of that audio take file; and storing a plurality of corresponding visual text files, each corresponding text file being identified by the corresponding audio take file unique tag;

- b. identifying to a central computer a specific message to be broadcast and displayed;
- c. assembling the audio portion of the specific message to be broadcast by having the central computer combine the required pre-recorded stored audio take files in sequence and generate an audio take list containing the corresponding unique tags in sequence for the specific message to be broadcast;
- d. transmitting the audio take list to a visual display computer;
- e. assembling by said visual display computer the text portion of the specific message to be displayed from the audio take list by combining the required stored visual text files in sequence;
- f. transmitting the text portion of the specific message to be displayed to at least one visual display, each said visual display having a microprocessor;
- g. separating by the microprocessor in each of said visual displays receiving the transmitted text portion the text portion of the specific message to be displayed into a plurality of lines to scroll on that specific visual display and, for each line of said plurality of lines, for the audio take files corresponding to the visual text files on that line, summing the embedded time queue for that line and determining a scroll rate for that line;
- h. transmitting by said central computer said audio portion of the specific message to be broadcast to at least one audio reproduction device and transmitting to said visual display computer a command to direct each of said visual displays receiving the transmitted text portion to display said text portion of the specific message to be displayed using the determined scroll rate for each line of text to scroll so that the audio portion and corresponding text portion are synchronized such that an observer would simultaneously hear the audio portion and see the corresponding text portion.

23. (New) The method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 22, where said at least one visual display comprises a plurality of visual displays with each said visual display being associated with at least one of said at least one audio reproduction device and, in step h, the transmitting by said central computer is to a selected set of said at least one audio reproduction devices and the transmitting to said visual display computer the command directs those visual displays to display the text portion which are associated with

those audio reproduction devices in the set receiving the audio portion.

24. (New) The method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 23, where each of said plurality of visual displays and the audio reproduction devices associated therewith are included in one or more broadcast zones and, in step h, the transmitting by said central computer is to a selected set of said at least one audio reproduction devices and the transmitting to said visual display computer the command directs those visual displays to display the text portion which are associated with those audio reproduction devices in the set receiving the audio portion results in the specific message to be broadcast and displayed being broadcast and displayed in one or more of said broadcast zones.

25. (New) The method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 22, where the specific message to be broadcast and displayed identified to said central computer comprises a plurality of related messages to be broadcast and displayed in a timed sequence controlled by said central computer.

26. (New) The method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 25, where the time controlled sequence can be altered and where any of said plurality of related messages can be skipped and where any of said plurality of related messages can be repeated.

27. (New) The method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 24, where the specific message to be broadcast and displayed identified to said central computer comprises a plurality of related messages to be broadcast and displayed in a timed sequence controlled by said central computer.

28. (New) The method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 27, where the time controlled sequence can be altered and where any of said plurality of related messages can be skipped and where any of said plurality of related messages can be repeated.

29. (New) The method for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 22, wherein the step of identifying to said central computer a specific message to be broadcast and displayed, the message to be broadcast and displayed is a message

which can not be formed by assembling from the stored plurality of pre-recorded audio take files plurality of corresponding visual text files, such that the text of the specific message is typed into a user interface and the corresponding audio is spoken into a microphone and then displayed and broadcast.

30. (New) A system for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information, comprising:

- a. an input device;
- b. a central computer in communication with said input device;
- c. a visual display computer in communication with said central computer;
- d. a plurality of visual displays in communication with said visual display computer, each said visual display having a microprocessor, each said visual display having at least one audio reproduction device associated therewith;
- e. said central computer storing a plurality of pre-recorded audio take files, each audio take file being identified by a unique tag and including an embedded time queue identifying the length of time for broadcast of that audio take file and said visual display computer storing a plurality of corresponding visual text files, each corresponding text file being identified by the corresponding audio take file unique tag;
- f. said central computer programmed to receive from said input device identification of a specific message to be broadcast and displayed, said central computer assembling the audio portion of the specific message to be broadcast by combining the required pre-recorded stored audio take files in sequence and generating an audio take list containing the corresponding unique tags in sequence for the specific message to be broadcast; and said central computer transmitting the audio take list to said visual display computer;
- g. said visual display computer assembling the text portion of the specific message to be displayed from the audio take list by combining the required stored visual text files in sequence and transmitting the text portion of the specific message to be displayed to at least one of the plurality of visual displays;
- h. the microprocessor in each of said visual displays receiving the transmitted text portion

separating the text portion of the specific message to be displayed into a plurality of lines to scroll on that specific visual display and, for each line of said plurality of lines, for the audio take files corresponding to the visual text files on that line, summing the embedded time queue for that line and determining a scroll rate for that line;

i. said central computer transmitting said audio portion of the specific message to be broadcast to any audio reproduction device associated with a visual display receiving the text portion and transmitting to said visual display computer a command to direct each of said visual displays receiving the transmitted text portion to display said text portion of the specific message to be displayed using the determined scroll rate for each line of text to scroll so that the audio portion and corresponding text portion are synchronized such that an observer would simultaneously hear the audio portion and see the corresponding text portion.

31. (New) The system for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 30, where the specific message to be broadcast and displayed identified to said central computer comprises a plurality of related messages to be broadcast and displayed in a timed sequence controlled by said central computer.

32. (New) The system for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 31, where the time controlled sequence can be altered and where any of said plurality of related messages can be skipped and where any of said plurality of related messages can be repeated.

33. (New) The system for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 30, the input device can be used to input to said central computer a specific message to be broadcast and displayed which can not be formed by assembling from the stored plurality of pre-recorded audio take files plurality of corresponding visual text files, such that the text of the specific message is typed into the input device and the corresponding audio is spoken into the input device and then the specific message is subsequently displayed and broadcast.

34. (New) The system for broadcasting synchronized audio and corresponding visual text information of claim 30, where each of said plurality of visual displays and the audio reproduction devices associated therewith are included in one or more broadcast zones and the

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specific message to be broadcast and displayed is broadcast and displayed in one or more of said broadcast zones.